

AO 91 (Rev. 08/09) Criminal Complaint

United States District Court  
Southern District of Texas

FILED

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

JUN 29 2019

for the

Southern District of Texas

David J. Bradley, Clerk

United States of America

v.  
Nathan Lee TAMEZ

COB: USC

YOB: 1990

Case No.

M-19-1520-M

Defendant(s)

## CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date(s) of June 27, 2019 in the county of Hidalgo in the  
Southern District of Texas, the defendant(s) violated:

Code Section

Offense Description

8 U.S.C. § 1324

Knowing or in reckless disregard of the fact that Carlos Mena-Paredes and Sylviano Sanchez De Jesus, both citizens of Mexico, who had entered the United States in violation of law, did knowingly transport or move or attempt to transport said aliens by means of a private vehicle in furtherance of such violation of law within the United States, this is, from a location near Alamo, Texas to another location near Alamo, Texas.

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

SEE ATTACHMENT "A"

✓ Continued on the attached sheet.

Submitted by reliable electronic means, sworn to  
and attested to telephonically per Fed. R. Cr. 4.1,  
and probable cause found on:6/29/19  
@ 10:55AM

/s/ Eddie A. Ramirez

Complainant's signature

Eddie A. Ramirez, HSI Special Agent

Printed name and title

Sworn to before me and signed in my presence.

Date: 6/29/2019City and state: McAllen, Texas

Judge's signature

J. Scott Hacker, U.S. Magistrate Judge

Printed name and title

#### Attachment A

The facts gathered herein are for the purposes of establishing probable cause within this complaint and do not contain all facts known at this time.

On June 27, 2019, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Special Agents, received information regarding an alien smuggling event from the Alamo Police Department (APD). APD Officers informed agents that their office received several calls for service regarding a vehicle collision, gunfire, gunshot victims, and undocumented aliens (UDA)s.

According to APD Officers, they encountered Nathan Lee TAMEZ at the scene of a vehicle collision in Alamo, Texas and observed TAMEZ to be bleeding from several gunshot wounds. TAMEZ told APD Officers he was a passenger in a black 2007 Dodge Nitro (NITRO) and some people in a white vehicle began to shoot at them in front of a Burger King. TAMEZ stated he was travelling with a female (later identified as Natalie Anaid PENA), who was the driver of the Nitro. TAMEZ also stated that he was traveling with other occupants but claimed not to know who they were. A concerned citizen reported to APD that they witnessed two additional subjects fleeing the scene of the vehicle collision.

Near the accident scene, APD Officers encountered Carlos MENA-Paredes and Sylviano SANCHEZ De Jesus as the passengers who fled from the scene of the vehicle collision. APD Officers contacted Border Patrol agents and it was determined that MENA and SANCHEZ were both Mexican nationals illegally present in the United States.

On June 28, 2019, HSI agents encountered and interviewed MENA and SANCHEZ. MENA and SANCHEZ provided HSI agents details of their travel from Mexico into the United States. On the same day of their arrest, the Nitro occupied by a female driver and a male passenger picked up MENA and SANCHEZ and transported them to a parking lot. The female driver and the male passenger instructed MENA and SANCHEZ to get down, hide, and not to look at them. Once parked, the male passenger exited the Nitro and began speaking to someone in another vehicle, the same male passenger got back into the Nitro. As the Nitro departed, MENA and SANCHEZ heard gunshots and felt the vehicle's windows shattering. The Nitro began travelling at a high rate of speed and subsequently collided into an unknown structure before coming to a complete stop. MENA and SANCHEZ exited the Nitro and fled in an attempt to evade gunfire. MENA and SANCHEZ approached a bystander and advised them to call police or immigration officials so they could turn themselves in. MENA and SANCHEZ both claim that their respective family members had already sent smuggling fees in Mexico and they were both enroute to California, when arrested by law enforcement.

On June 28, 2019, APD Officers retrieved home surveillance footage from the scene of the vehicle collision. The footage depicts the Nitro colliding into a house. The front

passenger, wearing a black shirt and red shorts, identified by APD Officers and HSI agents as TAMEZ, exits the vehicle through the window. Seconds later two subjects HSI agents identified as MENA and SANCHEZ exit the Nitro and flee the scene.